

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 /095 W

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P 141614Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6267

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0988

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA

SUBJECT: VORSTER'S SPEECH ON SWA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL

REF: CAPE TOWN 0943

1. PRIME MINISTER JOHN VORSTER INTRODUCED SECOND READING OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL TO PARLIAMENT AFTERNOON OF JULY 14. VORSTER SPEECH BEGAN WITH LENGTHY STATEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN VERSION OF HISTORY OF MANDATE, AND SOUTH AFRICAN EFFORTS AT INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION, INCLUDING TALKS WITH UN SECRETARIES GENERAL HAMMERSKJOLD AND WALDHEIM, AND CREATION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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ADVISORY COUNCIL AND TURNHALLE. VORSTER THEN RECOUNTED BRIEFLY AND IN LARGELY FACTUAL MANNER SOME DETAILS OF TALKS AND AGREEMENTS WITH FIVE WESTERN POWERS. HE STATED THAT ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD FOR CONSTITUTENT ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD DRAW UP INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION, AND UN REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE APPOINTED WHO WOULD SATISFY SELF THAT ELECTIONS WOULD BE FAIR, BY SECRET BALLOT, AND FREE FROM INTIMIDATION.

HE ALSO SAID THAT INVITATION WOULD BE ISSUED TO ALL EXILES TO RETURN AND PARTICIPATE PEACEFULLY, STRESSING LATTER POINT. HE MAINTAINED THAT ABOVE POINTS DO NOT DIFFER FUNDAMENTALLY FROM SOUTH AFRICA'S LONG-STANDING POSITION.

2. VORSTER DWELLED AT SOME LENGTH ON ISSUE OF WALVIS BAY, GIVING HISTORICAL EXPLANATION THAT IT HAD ALWAYS BEEN PART OF SOUTH AFRICA. HE STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT DESPITE SUGGESTIONS FROM SOME QUARTERS THAT WALVIS BAY MIGHT BECOME ISSUE OF NEGOTIATION, IT WAS IN FACT SOUTH AFRICAN TERRITORY AND WOULD REMAIN SO. HE SAID THIS WAS ALSO THE CASE FOR NUMEROUS ISLANDS ALONG SOUTH WEST AFRICAN COAST.

3. VORSTER MADE POINT THAT HE HAD SHOWN LEGISLATION TO CONTACT GROUP, AND WHILE THEY WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO ENDORSE IT ON BEHALF OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS, HE COULD SAY THAT IT WAS CONSISTENT WITH HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CG WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION.

4. UNITED PARTY AND PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT BILL. THE PRP DID, HOWEVER, EXPRESS RESERVATIONS AT GIVING SUCH GREAT POWER TO AN ADMINISTRATOR NOT ACCOUNTABLE TO PARLIAMENT. BOWDLER

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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